



Greenville Ear, Nose & Throat

Cochlear Implant Surgery

Before Surgery

- You must receive the vaccine against meningitis at least 2 weeks before surgery.
- Do NOT take aspirin or aspirin products such as Motrin, vitamin E, fish oil, or multi-vitamin supplements for 3 weeks before your surgery. You may take Tylenol.
- Do not eat or drink after midnight the night before surgery.
- Do not use styling products in your hair the day before or day of surgery.

After Surgery

- Do not drive yourself home from the hospital—arrange for someone else to transport you. You may travel by air after 2 weeks.
- Do not perform strenuous activity or lift objects heavier than 10 pounds for 2 weeks.
- Take pain medicine as needed.
- Take antibiotics for about 1 week.

You can remove your dressing (by cutting it off with scissors) in about 48 hours. Any cotton in the ear may be taken out, but the Steri-Strips behind the ear must remain.

Swelling and puffiness at the incision site are normal. To reduce swelling, elevate your head and sleep on several pillows. Your ear may protrude, but it will return to its normal position.

You may get your incision wet in the shower after the Steri-Strips fall off or after 1 week (whichever comes first). After that time, you may shower and shampoo your hair normally. However, do NOT soak the wound underwater for at least 3 weeks.

When to Call the Doctor

Call our office if you notice any of the following:

- Progressive redness or swelling
- Drainage
- Temperature above 101°F

Please call our office if you have questions about this information:

- Patewood (864) 454-4368
- Greer (864) 797-9400